

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

USIA-12 PRS-01 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 OMB-01 RSR-01

INRE-00 /079 W

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P R 161615 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMDSSSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1319

INFO RUESAS/ AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 18

AMEHOASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

DIA DOD

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FOR ARA/ APU TONKIN. USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: ARGENTINE ELECTION RESULTS REPORT NO. 10

REF BA1740

1. SUMMARY: IT NOW APPEARS THAT OFFICIAL RECOUNT OF VOTE WILL NOT BE COMPLETED UNTIL MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK. EMBASSY' S SOURCES IN BOTH PERONIST MOVEMENT AND MINISTRY OF INTERIOR INDICATE THAT FORMAL PROCLAMATION OF CAMPORA AS PRESIDENT ELECT CAN BE EXPECTED SHORTLY THEREAFTER. END SUMMARY.

2. MINISTER OF INTERIOR STATED YESTERDAY THAT RESULTS OF VOTE RECOUNT WOULD BE ANNOUNCED ON OR ABOUT MARCH 21. HE ADDED IT WAS ALREADY CLEAR THAT UCR IS RUNNER- UP AND THAT THE TWO LEADING PARTIES CLEARLY HAD TWO THIRDS OF THE VOTE BETWEEN THEM; HENCE, QUESTION OF SECOND ROUND FOR THE PRESIDENCY WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ONE BETWEEN THOSE TWO PARTIES AND EVEN IF UCR ANNOUNCED ITS ABSTENTION BEFORE FINAL VOTE COUNT, MANRIQUE WOULD NOT BE RECOGNIZED AS RUNNER- UP BY DEFAULT. NONETHELESS, AS OF THE MOMENT UCR APPARENTLY HAS NOT CHANGED ITS EARLIER DECISION OF NOT GIVING LEGAL SUBSTANCE TO ITS DE FACTO ABSTENTION PRIOR TO FINAL AND OFFICIAL VOTE COUNT. EMBASSY SOURCES IN UCR, HOWEVER, INSIST THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY UCR WILL NOT ABSTAIN WHEN THE TIME COMES.

3. MEANWHILE, PERONISTS IN GENERAL AND SPECIFICALLY MAYORIA EDITORIAL YESTERDAY, MAR 15, ARE GROUSING ABOUT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THEIR VERSION OF VOTE COUNT AND THAT OF GOVERNMENT. THEIR UNOFFICIAL COUNT INDICATES THEY HAVE 52 PERCENT OF THE VOTE WHILE THE GOVERNMENT' S OFFICIAL (THO INCOMPLETE) TALLY GIVES THEM ONLY 49 PERCENT. PERONISTS ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THIS RESULTS FROM GOVERNMENT' S WISH TO APPEAR MAGNANIMOUS IN GIVING THEM THE ELECTION. " WE DO NOT WANT GENEROSITY, WE SIMPLY WANT THE TRUTH," SAID MAYORIA YESTERDAY. DESPITE SUCH GRUMBLING, HOWEVER, PERONISTS ARE UNLIKELY TO MAKE A REAL ISSUE OF IT SINCE FACT IS THEY HAVE WON, WHETHER WITH 49 OR 52 PERCENT OF THE VOTE. INDEED SOME PERONISTS ARE SAYING MARGIN OF VICTORY IS ALMOST EMBARRASSING AND THAT UNOFFICIALLY THEY RATHER HOPE UCR WILL AT LEAST WIN GOVERNOR SHIP IN CORDOBA SO AS NOT TO BE FACED WITH TOTAL DISASTER. AS OPPOSITION PARTY, THEY SAY, " WE PREFER RADICALES TO MANRIQUE."
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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